



May 23, 2008

This Week

- Port Townsend/Keystone Reservation Program Goes Live
- Edmonds Mayor and City Council Briefing
- Whidbey Island Community Meetings
- Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council Meeting
- Ferry Advisory Committee Executive Council Meeting
- Labor Management Meeting
- Ferry Financing Legislation Update
- Bainbridge Island Ferry Terminal Safety Improvements
- Memorial Day Weekend
- My Calendar Next Week

Port Townsend/Keystone Reservation Program Goes Live

The Port Townsend/Keystone Reservation Program went live on Monday, May 19. As of Thursday we had taken 3,533 reservations: 1,652 by phone and 1,881 online. We are still making adjustments to this pilot program including lessening phone wait times, (online reservations have provided some relief), reducing the queues at the ticket booths and improving communication with customers during weather cancellations. To make a reservation or for more information visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries.

Edmonds Mayor and City Council Briefing

I continue to meet with representatives and leaders in areas served by ferries. On Tuesday, I traveled to Edmonds with our director of Terminal Engineering John White for briefings with the Edmonds City Council and Mayor Gary Haakenson. We had productive discussions about the status of ferry financing legislated studies and the plans for the Edmonds Ferry Terminal.

Whidbey Island Community Meetings

On Wednesday, I joined Secretary of Transportation Paula Hammond in Coupeville for a meeting with the Island County Economic Council to discuss issues related to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). There was a lot of focus on the ferry system including the Port Townsend/Keystone Reservation Program. While on Whidbey Island, I met with Captain Gerral David, Commanding Officer of the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station. We talked about the ferry system and the Navy's concerns about ferry service from Whidbey Island to Port Townsend.

Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council Meeting

I met with the Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council (KRCC) on Thursday to introduce myself and my objectives as the new Assistant Secretary for the ferry system. We talked about their involvement in the ferry finance study. They gave valuable feedback on Kitsap Transit's planning considerations and coordination with the ferry system. After the meeting I met with Cary Bozeman, Bremerton Mayor and KRCC member. We talked about our operations at the ferry system and Bremerton's interest in passenger-only ferry service.

Ferry Advisory Committee Executive Council

On Tuesday, I met with the Ferry Advisory Committee (FAC) Executive Council to prepare for the upcoming public meetings in June. We are close to nailing down the dates, which I hope to publish in next week's update.

Labor Management Meeting

We are working with our unions on labor issues. On Monday, I joined the WSDOT Human Resources Department for a meeting with our major labor union representatives to discuss our mutual interests. It was a good meeting and I hope to have regularly scheduled labor union meetings moving forward.

Ferry Financing Legislative Update

I look forward to meeting with the Joint Transportation Committee Ferry Policy Group today. We will discuss options for operational and pricing strategies and the upcoming FAC public meetings where these topics will be the main agenda topic.

Bainbridge Island Ferry Terminal Safety Improvements

Beginning Wednesday, May 28, changes at the Bainbridge Island Ferry Terminal will improve safety and efficiency for our customers. WSDOT Ferries Division has constructed a system of new crossings, pathways and signals for pedestrians and bicyclists. For more information visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries.

Memorial Day Weekend

We are prepared for the busy holiday weekend. In addition to offering reservations on the Port Townsend/Keystone route we have added extra service and increased staff on key routes. However, travelers should still expect some delays at their ferry docks. For more information visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries.

Coming Up Next Week

- City of Bainbridge Island City Council Briefing on May 28
- Ferry Financing Work Group Meeting on May 28
- Mukilteo Terminal Project Meeting with Sound Transit and the Port of Everett

David Moseley's Weekly Updates are available on the WSF Web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly/.